



## REMARKS

### Rejections of and Objections to the Claims

Claims 1 through 13 are pending in the subject patent application. Claims 1 through 8 and 10 through 13 have been rejected. Claim 9 has been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Accordingly, claims 1 through 8 and 10 through 13 have been cancelled, and claim 9 has been amended to overcome the formal grounds of objection. Specifically, claim 9 has been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of the base claim therein. No other limitations have been added to claim 9.

### Objections to the Drawings

The Official Draftsman has objected to the drawings on the basis of informalities. Attorney for Applicant acknowledges the aforementioned informalities, and they will be appropriately amended upon receipt of the Notice of Allowability.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 is patentable, and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (360)874-9254 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 27th day of October, 2000.


Respectfully submitted,

Gerald W. Spinks  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,843  
Customer No. 22,875  
P.O. Box 2330  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
Phone: (360)874-9254  
Fax: (360)874-9255

RECEIVED  
NOV - 3 2000  
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this Response to Office Action is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2000.

  
Gerald W. Spinks  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,843

24-01027.roa